

**Amendment to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A hanging element, comprising of:  
an extended body equipped with a ~~first end or~~ substantially T-shaped insertion body ~~end~~ and a ~~second opposite end or~~ an opposite closure head, characterized by the fact that ~~[[it]]~~ the extended body includes at least one outwardly extending side projection adapted to ~~join several engage another hanging element pieces together in order to have many pieces hanging together configured as the~~ form a matrix or comb of hanging elements.

2. (currently amended) A hanging element, according to claim 1, ~~characterized by the fact that the first end or~~ wherein between the insertion body ~~end~~ and the closure head is extended by a single wire which ends in a Y joint, ~~the ends of the Y joint split the respective single wires to form a closed loop which ends in a Y joint which meets in the closure head, and the end of a hook introduced inside the loop for receiving a suspension member.~~

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A hanging element, according to claim 2, characterized by the fact that the ~~aforementioned~~ closure head has a ~~ringbolt or~~ an identification tag at one end through the joint.

5. **(currently amended)** A hanging element according to claim 4, wherein the ~~ringbolt~~ or identification tag is one of a label, microchip, and barcode.

6. **(new)** A hanging element, comprising of:  
an extended body having a first insertion end that is flexible and a second opposite closure head end, wherein  
the extended body includes at least one side projection extending outwardly therefrom adapted to engage another side projection of a second adjacent hanging element, thereby connecting at least two hanging elements, and the two hanging elements being disposed in the same plane.

7. **(new)** A hanging element, according to claim 1, wherein the first insertion end is extended by a single wire, which bifurcates a Y joint end to form a closed loop which meets at the closure head end, so that an end of a suspension member is receivable inside the closed loop.

8. **(new)** A hanging element assembly, comprising of:  
a first hanging element having an extended body including a first insertion end and a second closure head end opposite the first end, the extended body including a first side projection extending outwardly therefrom;  
a second hanging element having an extended body including a first insertion end and a second closure head end opposite the first end, the extended body including a second side projection extending outwardly therefrom; and

whereby the first side projection engages the second side projection, thereby coupling the first and second hanging elements.

9. (new) A hanging element assembly according to claim 8, wherein  
a third hanging element having an extended body including a first insertion end and a second closure head end opposite the first end, the extended body including a third side projection extending outwardly therefrom;

whereby the third side projection of the third hanging element engages a side projection of the second hanging element, thereby forming a matrix of the first, second, and third hanging elements.